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megaspore mother cell as two megaspores. This is a surprising conception of the megaspore, for it would mean that a megaspore (and presumably a microspore) could be formed with only one of the reduction divisions, that is, the megaspore would be completely formed at the close of the heterotypic mitosis. Cytologists will hardly accept such an interpretation.

The angiosperm embryo sac is interpreted as consisting of micropylar and an antipodal archegonium. This is another view which can hardly be accepted by one who has followed the gradual reduction of the female gametophyte from the bryophytes to the spermatophytes.

The book brings together an immense amount of material and will be useful just as an encyclopedia is useful. In such voluminous publications originality is not to be expected. There is a general index and an index of plant names. Many references to literature are given in the text, but the complete bibliography will be deferred until the work is complete.—CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

MINOR NOTICES

Forestry in Indiana.—The annual report of the Indiana State Board of Forestry² for the past year contains two papers of more than usual interest. The shorter, by STANLEY COULTER, contains a valuable mass of data on the rate of growth of various native tree species found upon the state reservation. Its study should make the selection of the best species for forest planting an easier matter, while at the same time it serves to emphasize the importance of conserving what has been the product of centuries of plant activity.

The longer article, by C. C. DEAM, the secretary of the board, is an illustrated descriptive list of the tree species native to the state and occupies 270 pages of the report. Excellent botanical descriptions of some 125 species are supplemented by full-page drawings of leaves and fruit, together with notes upon the economic uses and horticultural value of the trees, making it a valuable handbook of the forests of the state.—GEO. D. FULLER.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS

Recent work among gymnosperms.—STILES³ has investigated some material of *Podocarpus*, *Dacrydium*, and *Microcachrys*, and has made it the basis of a synthetic presentation of the classification, morphology, history, and phylogenetic connections of the group. The bringing together of this wealth of details in an organized form will serve the very useful purpose not only of suggesting genetic connections but also of indicating the important gaps in our knowledge. The general features of the group are summarized clearly and compactly under the categories of vegetative organs, spore-producing

² Eleventh annual report of Indiana State Board of Forestry for the year 1911. pp. 372. *pls. 133.* Indianapolis: Wm. B. Burford. 1912.

³ STILES, WALTER, The Podocarpeae. *Ann. Botany* 26:443-514. *figs. 8. pls. 46-48.* 1912.